

tors made alternative arrangements to discharge their contractual obligations. A writ Petition was filed before the Supreme court praying that the contract labourers employed at the Panipat factory should be declared as regular employees of the Company but the Court dismissed the petition.

In 1987, an industrial dispute on the subject was raised and the matter has been referred by the Government of Haryana to the Industrial Tribunal, Ambala, for adjudication. The Tribunal has not yet given its award.

[*Translation*]

Additional Chance to Candidates to Appear in civil services Examination

3224. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give one additional chance to the candidates to appear in the Civil Services Examination in view of the complaints received about the irregularities committed during the Civil Services Examination, 1990;

(b) if so, the details of the categories of candidates to be given such benefit; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to compensate the loss suffered by the candidates on account of the irregularities committed in the Civil Services Examination, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a), (b) and (c). The Government propose to fix the upper age limit at 33 years for the Civil Services Examination to be held in 1992. It is also proposed to increase the number of attempts from 4 to

5. These facilities will be available for the 1992 Examination only.

Sales Depots of H.P.C.

3225. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the sales of the products of Hindustan Paper Corporation by opening a sales centre or a sales depot in Raigarh district of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). There is already one stockist of Hindustan Paper Corporation Limited at Raigarh in Madhya Pradesh to cater to the demand of the area. There is no proposal to open a Sales Depot or sales centre at Raigarh.

[*English*]

Letters/Representations From MPs

3226. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of letters, representations/ memoranda received by the Prime Minister from the Members of Parliament during the last four months;

(b) the number out of them disposed of; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the replies to the remaining letters/representations/memorandum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The number of let-

ters received between 1.7.91 and 31.10.91 was 2245.

(b) and (c). Action on most of the letters is required to be taken by different ministries and departments. These letters have been sent to the concerned ministries and departments with the advice to have them examined expeditiously and send an appropriate reply to the Members of Parliament concerned.

There are certain other letters in respect of which action is required to be taken by the Prime Minister's Office. These are processed with due diligence and expedition.

There are some others on which no specific action is required. However, in all cases, acknowledgements are sent from the Prime Minister to the Members of Parliament concerned.

Appointment of Executives in Public Sector Units

3227. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the executives for the public sector units have been selected on the basis of merit;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the criteria adopted in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Selection to the Board-level posts in the Central Public Sector undertakings are made on the basis of the specific job requirements of each Board-level post from among the candidates fulfilling the eligibility

criteria with regard to age, experience and posts held by them in their respective organisations. At the time of interview, the Public Enterprises Selection Board also takes into account the experience, service records and the Annual Confidential Reports of the persons and their performance in the interview.

(c) Does not arise.

Down-ward trend in the prices of essential commodities

3228. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C.P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a down-ward trend in the prices of some essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The essential commodities which have recorded a down-ward trend in the wholesale price indices during the last four weeks upto 16.11.1991 are given below:

Arhar	-	1.1
Gram	-	0.4
Barley	-	1.2
Mutton	-	1.3
Black Pepper	-	5.1
Turmeric	-	4.7
Tea	-	4.2